

Abstract

[0123] An video data object distribution system for transfer of video data objects includes a network of digital data file servers. The network of digital data file servers communicate with a client system to transfer video data objects. A scheduling apparatus schedules the transfer of the video data objects. A client streaming device within the client begins transfer of a first segment such that the video data object is started streaming of prior to reception of a totality of the first segment. An ordered sequential transfer device orders and sequentially transfers segments of the video data object to the client system. The preemption device allows persistent video data object transfer of video data object without resending the video data objects. A hierarchical caching controller copies segments of any of the video data objects from a central distribution server to any of the network of data file servers.